

CITY OF MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE

Edward A. Flynn, Chief of Police

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SIX-MONTH VIOLENT CRIME SHOWS DOUBLE-DIGIT DROP

Nearly all crime categories showed a double-digit drop, according to city of Milwaukee crime statistics released today by Police Chief Edward A. Flynn. Overall violent crime (homicide, rape, robbery and aggravated assault) decreased by **19.4 percent** in the first half of this year.

The numbers are encouraging, showing a substantial drop in all categories except for burglary. Note, however, that in the MPD's First Quarter numbers, burglary had increased 10.6 percent in the first three months of the year, but at the 2008 halfway point, now shows a 9.1 percent increase – still troubling, but it is trending in the right direction.

MAJOR CRIME TOTALS FOR JANUARY – JUNE, 2008

	2007	2008	% CHANGE
<u>VIOLENT CRIME:</u>			
• HOMICIDE	48	33	-31.3
• RAPE	124	88	-29.0
• ROBBERY	1,607	1,392	-13.4
• AGG. ASSAULT	2,210	1,703	-22.9
VIOLENT CRIME TOTALS:	3,989	3,216	<u>-19.4</u>
<u>PROPERTY CRIME:</u>			
• BURGLARY	2,618	2,855	+9.1
• LARCENY-THEFT	11,521	11,456	-0.6
• MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	3,718	3,334	-10.3
• ARSON	152	138	-9.2
OVERALL TOTALS:	21,998	20,999	<u>-4.5</u>

(note: These numbers are preliminary data that may see some fluctuations after they are verified and sent back to MPD from the State of Wisconsin Department of Justice)

“When we released our first quarter 2008 crime statistics, many people noted a correlation between the cold weather and crime reductions, even as the police district captains were rolling out their anti-crime plans. It’s reasonable to say as these plans matured, we continue to see improvements even in the warmer weather,” Chief Flynn said. “I’m optimistic that the partnerships between the Neighborhood Task Force and the

police districts that are invigorated with new recruits, will continue to make progress reducing the levels of crime, fear and disorder.”

"I'm encouraged by these numbers, most of which are headed in the right direction, but it is clear there is more work to do," said Mayor Tom Barrett. "There are still far too many shootings and too many neighborhoods continued to be plagued by crime. I have complete faith and confidence in the Milwaukee Police Department and neighborhood specific policing strategies, and I ask all neighborhood residents to get engaged in the fight against crime on every block."

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